

F1 control element and preventing exhaust gas from bypassing the pollution control element, said sheet material having major top and bottom surfaces, a thickness, a length, and a width corresponding to a direction of exhaust gas through the device, said sheet material having at least one score-line in the major top surface and across the entire width of said sheet material to relieve enough surface tension in said sheet material that, when said sheet material is disposed around the curvature of said pollution control element, cracking or breaking of said sheet material that would otherwise occur is avoided.

F2 14. (Twice amended) The pollution control device of claim 13 wherein each of said score-lines extend across the entire width of the top surface of said sheet material and the top surface of the sheet material faces the housing.

F3 18. (Twice amended) The pollution control device of claim 12 wherein said sheet material has at least one score-line in the major bottom surface and across the width of said sheet material, wherein the score-line on the bottom surface have a cross-sectional shape that is V-shaped and the score-lines on the top surface have a cross-sectional shape that is a vertical line.

F4 27. (Once Amended) The pollution control device of claim 12 wherein said score-lines have a cross-sectional shape selected from a vertical line shape, a V-shape, a U-shape, a triangular shape, and a square shape.

28. (Twice amended) A pollution control device comprising:
a housing;

a pollution control element disposed within said housing; and

F5 a mounting article disposed between said the pollution control element and said housing, said mounting article comprising a sheet material useful for mounting said pollution control element and preventing exhaust gas from bypassing the pollution control element, said sheet material having a major top surface facing said housing and a major bottom surface facing said pollution control element, a thickness, a length and a width, said sheet material having at least one score-line extending across the width of the sheet material in a direction that is parallel to gas flow through said pollution control element, said at least one score-line relieving surface tension

FS in said sheet material that would have been generated by said sheet material being disposed around said pollution control element if not for said at least one score-line.

30. (Once Amended) The pollution control device of claim 29 wherein the oval shaped cross section of said pollution control device is defined by two larger radius of curvatures that are separated from each other by two smaller radius of curvatures and said sheet material has at least one score-line located proximate to each of said smaller radius of curvature and no score-line is located proximate to either of said larger radius of curvatures.

Pl 31. (Once Amended) The pollution control device of claim 28 wherein said at least one score-line has a cross-sectional shape selected from a vertical line shape, a V-shape, a U-shape, a triangular shape, and a square shape.

34. (Once Amended) A mounting article for mounting a pollution control element within a pollution control device, said mounting article comprising a sheet material useful for mounting a pollution control element in a housing, where the pollution control element has an outer curved surface, said sheet material having

a major top surface facing the housing and a major bottom surface facing the pollution control device,

a thickness,

Fn a length dimensioned so as to allow said sheet material to be wrapped lengthwise completely around the outer curved surface of the pollution control element and form a seal between the pollution control element and the housing, wherein the seal prevent gas from bypassing the pollution control element,

a width that is smaller than the length, and

at least one score-line formed in at least the major top surface of said sheet material, each score-line being disposed across the entire width of said sheet material.

FS 37. (Once Amended) The pollution control device of claim 34 wherein said at least one score-line has a cross-sectional shape selected from a vertical line shape, a V-shape, a U-shape, a triangular shape, and a square shape.

38. (New) The pollution control device of claim 34, wherein the sheet material has at least one score-line formed in the major top surface and at least one score-line formed in the major bottom surface and the major top surface is positioned adjacent to the housing.

39. (New) A pollution control device comprising:

a housing;

a pollution control element disposed within said housing, said pollution control element having an oval shaped cross section defined by a larger radius of curvature and a smaller radius of curvature; and

fa a mounting article disposed between said the pollution control element and said housing, said mounting article comprising a sheet material useful for mounting said pollution control element and preventing exhaust gas from bypassing the pollution control element, said sheet material having a major top surface facing said housing and a major bottom surface facing said pollution control element, a thickness, a length and a width, said sheet material having at least one score-line located proximate said smaller radius of curvature and extending across the width of said sheet material in a direction that is parallel to gas flow through said pollution control element and said sheet material having no score-line located proximate to said larger radius of curvature, said at least one score-line located proximate said smaller radius of curvature relieving surface tension in said sheet material that would have been generated by said sheet material being disposed around the radius of curvature of said pollution control element if not for said at least one score-line.

40. (New) The pollution control device of claim 39, wherein the score-line has a cross-sectional shape selected from a vertical line shape, a V-shape, a U-shape, a triangular shape, and a square shape.

41. (New) The pollution control device of claim 39, wherein the score-line has a cross-sectional shape that is a vertical line shape.

42. (New) The pollution control device of claim 34, wherein the score-line is in the form of a repeating pattern across the entire width of the sheet material.

43. (New) The pollution control device of claim 42, wherein the repeating pattern is in the form of a saw tooth wave or a sine wave.

43. (New) The pollution control device of claim 12, wherein the score-line has a cross-sectional shape that is a vertical line.

PG 44. (New) The pollution control device of claim 28, wherein the score-line has a cross-section shape that is a vertical line.

45. (New) The pollution control device of claim 34, wherein the score-line has a cross-sectional shape that is a vertical line.

46. (New) The pollution control device of claim 38, wherein the score-line on the top surface has a cross-sectional shape that is a vertical line and the score-line on the bottom surface has a cross-sectional shape that is V-shaped.